(b) to (d). During the Eighth Plan period, labour intensive growth has been accorded highest priority, thereby generating additional employment opportunities. Accordingly, the unemployment rate which was around 3.77% during 1987-88 came down to 2.56% during 1993-94. It is expected that the strategy of employment intensive growth will be continued during the ensuing NInth Five Year Plan also.

[Translation]

Serials Mega

2949. SHRI NITISH BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Indian Culture based legendary and historical serials which have been cleared for telecast on Doordarshan at present;

(b) the time allotted to these serials on Doordarshan each month

(c) whether serial Mega has been omitted from the new rate card of Doordarshan;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government for promoting these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sports Complex

2950. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of the work of the proposed Sports Complex at Barnungachi, Howrah under Eastern Railway;

(b) the estimated cost and funds made available therefor;

(c) the capacity of the Stadia; and

(d) the target period of completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Tender for consultancy services is under process of finalisation. Part estimate for consultancy is being prepared.

(b) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 8.95 Crores and allotment of funds for the current year i.e. 1996-97 is Rs. 51.70 lakhs.

(c) The proposed capacity of the Stadium is 20,000.

(d) Three years subject to availability of requisite funds.

Electrification of Railway Routes

2951. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government propose to electrify Chandil-Muri and Muri-Bakaro Railway route;

(b) if so, whether this section is likely to be electrified during the current year; and

(c) if so, the funds allotted for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. The works have already been taken up.

(b) These sections are likely to be electrified by March, 98.

(c) The funds allotted for the year 1996-97 for Chandil-Muri-Barkakana Electrification Project and for the Bokaro-Muri-Barsuan/Kiriburu Electrification Project which include these sections are Rs. 20 crore and Rs. 40 crore, respectively.

Vigilance Inspector

2952. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Vigilance Inspectors of Railway Board discipline-wise and number out of them completed full-term i.e. six years;

(b) the action taken by the Government to revert such staff to their Parent Cadre; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). At present there are 36 Inspectors with Vigilance Directorate, comprising of 21 from Traffic, 6 from Engineering 2 from Stores and the balance covering other disciplines.

A total of 8 Inspectors have completed six years tenure out of which three have been given extension in administrative interest in accordance with extant rules.

The process of selection for Vigilance Inspectors to fill up the existing as also anticipated vacancies has already been initiated.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Post Offices in U.P.

2953. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present number of post offices and telephone exchanges in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh are adequate;

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to open new post offices and telephone exchanges during 1996-97; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) There are 41 Post Offices in Sambhal. On an average a Post Office serves a population of 11628 and an area of 16.08 square kilometers. The national averages in terms of population and area served per Post Office are 5517 and 21.44 square kilometers respectively.

(b) Post Offices are opened progressively under Annual Plan Schemes subject to norm based justification and availability of resources.

(c) There was only one proposal for opening of an Extra Departmental Branch Post Office at Village oberi, which has been sanctioned.

Department of Telecommunications

(a) to (c). The number of telephone exchanges is not adequate in Sambhal. The installation of 512 Port C-DOT exchange is under progress and is likely to be expanded to 1.4 K C-DOT by March, 1997 subject to availability.

[English]

Discipline & Appeal Rules, 1968

2954. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Railway Servants (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, 1968 are corrected upto April 1, 1987 and thereafter large number of corrections have been issued making it difficult for the authorities and the employees to keep track of them;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed by the Government to correct the said rules upto date and to lay a copy thereof on the table of the House; and

(c) the time by which the above Rules likely to be updated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The Railway Servants (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, 1968 as last revised embody amendments to the rules issued upto 1.4.87. As per well established procedure, the amendments to the Railway Servants (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, 1968 are carried out through Notifications in the Gazette of India. Details of all the earlier amendments to these rules are incorporated in the form of a foot note to the proposed amendment. Copies of the notifications amending the rules are also endorsed to the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the recognised Federations on the Indian Railways besides all the concerned authorities on the Railways. There is thus no difficulty in keeping track of the amendments.

(b) and (c). In view of the above, there is no such proposal at present.

On-Line Billing Information Services

2955. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether on-line Billing information services has been introduced by MTNL in Delhi;

(b) whether on-line Telephone Directory enquiry sevice for Bombay, Madras and Calcutta has also been introduced by MTNL in Delhi;

(c) whether some a Walk-in Directory enquiry facility has also been introduced in Delhi by M.T.N.L.;

(d) if so, formalities required separately to avail of these facilities;

(e) whether M.T.N.L. propose to introduce some an on-line telephone fault repair confirmation service in Delhi;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. A walk-in-Directory Enquiry Service has been introduced by MTNL, Delhi at Eastern Court, Janpath, New Delhi. The person approaching for enquiry has to furnish one of the following informations to get specific details of directory entry as given below:-

1. The name of the subscriber for getting his Telephone No.
2. The Telephone No. getting the name and address of the subscriber.
3. The old No. for getting the new No. of the subscriber.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. MTNL Delhi is proposing to introduce an on-line fault repair confirmation service operating through Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS). This is being done on trial basis at Jorbagh exchange in Delhi.

(g) Does not arise in view of (e & f) above.

Discontinuation of Programmes Quest

2956. SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the programme 'Quest' has been telecast on Doordarshan;